



JUN 20 2003

STAYLOR
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INSPECTION REPORT

ALAIN ZERBINI CIRCUS PRODUCTION

3327 51ST ST.
SARASOTA, FL 34235

Customer ID: 1874

Certificate: 58-C-0012

Site: 002

Inspection

Type: ROUTINE INSPECTION

Date: JUN-10-2003

All redactions on this page are pursuant to (b)(6) & (b)(7)(c).

2.40

REPEAT NCI

DIRECT

ATTENDING VETERINARIAN AND ADEQUATE VETERINARY CARE (DEALERS AND EXHIBITORS).

Each exhibitor shall employ an attending veterinarian under formal arrangements, which shall include a written program of veterinary care and regularly scheduled visits to the premises. The attending veterinarian must have appropriate authority to ensure the provision of adequate veterinary care and to oversee the adequacy of other aspects of animal care and use. Programs of care must include use of appropriate methods to prevent, control, diagnose, and treat diseases and injuries. There must be direct and frequent communication so that timely and accurate information on problems of animal health, behavior, and well-being is conveyed to the attending veterinarian.

1. [REDACTED] uses two veterinarians. There are two programs of care. There was an instance where the use of both veterinarians in sequence, without a method of communication between the two, created confusion about the appropriate diagnosis and treatment of a lion with ataxia and star-gazing. How the two programs would apply simultaneously is not clear in either program. Example: One of the programs recommends switching to a commercial feline diet for a tiger with serum chemistry values consistent with renal compromise, while the other program makes no mention of this.

If two veterinarians will be used for the same set of animals, their respective roles and authorities need to be delineated as part of the written program. There must also be a system whereby information from one is promptly communicated to the other to preserve continuity of care. Ultimately, the licensee must be responsible for ensuring that information from the secondary veterinarian is conveyed to the primary veterinarian, and also the other way around, when indicated.

Because a diet plan is also required to be under the direction of the veterinarian, they also need to coordinate concerns we have about how livestock from [REDACTED] livestock removal business is identified as safe for consumption by these felines. Reference is made to live rather than dead stock being used, but this is not adequate; much of the live hoofstock encountered will still be unsuitable for feeding. This needs to be resolved in the written PVC(s), and through specific training given by the vet(s).

There should be one written program that will describe the care for all animals, and how the activities of each veterinarian will be coordinated.

I suggest a meeting between both veterinarians [REDACTED] and USDA to develop a cohesive program. The coordination and communication issue needs to be satisfactorily resolved by 8-1-03.

2. There are several animals with focal open skin lesions of several days to two weeks duration. One veterinarian examined two of these animals two weeks ago and made several recommendations and provided instructions for [REDACTED] to

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follow. [REDACTED] had not yet followed these, and the veterinarian was awaiting a call from [REDACTED] to proceed further. After that veterinarian's visit, several other animals reportedly developed skin lesions.

Veterinary instructions on the care of animals are to be followed.

All redactions on this page are pursuant to (b)(6) & (b)(7)(c).

3. A new tiger was placed on arrival in a cage adjacent to colony animals, with open mesh between them. This exposes colony animals to potential disease transmission from the new arrival which could be a disease carrier. Some leopards with skin lesions were exposed through mesh or sequential sharing of enclosures to other animals without lesions, before these skin lesions were diagnosed or treated. All of the animals in contiguous cages with the leopards must now be considered exposed. There is a high level of animal turnover here, and there have been intermittent problems with various apparently contagious conditions over the past year.

Such practices are not consistent with appropriate methods to prevent and control disease. A protocol for new animal arrivals, quarantine, and isolation of sick animals needs to be established as part of the program of veterinary care. Part of this will also mean designating suitable caging for isolating sick animals or new arrivals of uncertain health status. One of the veterinarians has already mentioned the need to establish such quarantine areas and protocols in his written PVC.

This is to be established within the revised PVC by 8-1-03.

3.125 (a) REPEAT NCI DIRECT

3.125 (d)

FACILITIES, GENERAL.

Structural Strength:

The facility must be constructed of such material and of such strength as appropriate for the animals involved. The indoor and outdoor housing facilities shall be structurally sound and shall be maintained in good repair to protect the animals from injury and to contain the animals.

The spacing of the welded wire that forms the circular exercise ring and the jaguar pen is wide enough that the animals' paws and legs can protrude.

This could be dangerous to humans on the outside and animals on the inside. One young adult lion was euthanized on 1/4/03 due to a femoral fracture, which was said by [REDACTED] to be sustained from a temporary limb entrapment through the wire.

Smaller and safer openings must be achieved somehow. The mesh size must be such that whatever animal is in it, cannot get its paws out and injure themselves or a human. If a smaller mesh is overlain, then it must be done in a way that leaves no rough or sharp edges or protruding cut metal points, so that animals would scrape or cut themselves along the edge.

Correct by 7/15/03.

Waste Disposal:

Provision shall be made for the removal and disposal of animal and food wastes, bedding, and debris. Disposal facilities

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shall be so provided and operated as to minimize vermin infestation, odors, and disease hazards.

There was a significant amount of fresh and decomposing animal hair and detritus under the wagon cages for housing of 7 tigers, and 2 leopards. This was being removed by a rake, but the rake incompletely removes this material. All of these animals are suspected of having a contagious fungal infection of the skin.

Shed hair can harbor such organisms, and incomplete cleaning can pose a disease transmission risk through loose hair to unaffected animals.

Correct immediately. The area near and under these animals needs to be frequently and thoroughly cleaned and disinfected.

All redactions on this page are pursuant to (b)(6) & (b)(7)(c).

3.127

FACILITIES, OUTDOOR.

Natural or artificial shelter appropriate to the local climatic conditions for the species concerned shall be provided for all animals kept outdoors to afford them protection and to prevent discomfort to such animals.

The circular exercise ring has become a temporary cage for a young new tiger. This tiger, or another animal, might live there for up to a month more. This cage did not have adequate shelter from the effects of sunlight and from rain.

For animals staying in the circular cage, it is necessary to provide of one or more structures that block rain and effects of angled sunlight. The number and size of sheltered areas in a cage has to be right for the number of animals sharing the space. One also has to take into account that animals may not want to share a comfortable spot with each other.

Any animal kept in any pen must have a way to comfortably protect itself from effects of sun or other weather by 6-20-03.

Note: Additional protection from sunlight and heat will also be needed soon for animals housed in the grassy pens. The concrete culverts do not stay as cool as expected [redacted] has plans to make some shelter additions to these areas, and these ideas sound like they will be effective.

3.128

SPACE REQUIREMENTS.

Enclosures shall be constructed and maintained so as to provide sufficient space to allow each animal to make normal postural and social adjustments with adequate freedom of movement. Inadequate space may be indicated by evidence of malnutrition, poor condition, debility, stress, or abnormal behavior patterns.

1. Two black leopards are kept in a standard circus travel compartment. These wagons are about 6' X 4' X 4H'. This is not enough space for two growing leopards to make normal leopard-like movement, such as standing on the hind legs. They cannot get the kind of exercise they need here, and staying in such a small space will affect their physical and behavioral development. The leopards are under treatment for a skin condition, but treating this will not make it necessary to keep them in a space that is too small for normal movement and exercise.

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2. Six new juvenile tigers share 3 connecting travel wagon compartments (about 6'X4'X4"H each). One adult female tiger stays in a single 6X4X4H compartment also. This is not enough space for each these 7 tigers to make normal postures and movements for tigers. They cannot get the kind of exercise they need here. These tigers are under treatment for a skin condition, but treating this will not make it necessary to keep them in a space that is too small for normal movement and exercise.

Big cats, especially when not traveling, need to be housed in an enclosure that will allow enough room for animals to make normal movements, such as stretching, rolling, leaping, and running. For example, each of the existing concrete floor pens, would meet minimum space requirements for stationary housing of one to three big cats, depending on species, age, sex and compatibility. Multiple animals can share one enclosure, but this is more suitable for juveniles. Adult felines are more likely to be incompatible, and require more space for social adjustments.

All animals should be housed in enclosures that meet space and exercise requirements as of 7-12-03.

All redactions on this page are pursuant to (b)(6) & (b)(7)(c).

3.133

DIRECT

SEPARATION.

Animals shall not be housed near animals that interfere with their health or cause them discomfort.

1. A new young tiger was housed in a welded wire pen adjacent to a welded wire pen with 2 adult male jaguars. The behavior of the tiger showed that she was clearly fearful and distressed by the attentions of the jaguars.

She should not be housed within proximity of these or other animals that are frightening. Alternatively, one may try physical visual barriers between the two pens. This often alleviates the stress of close proximity. Placing hiding boxes within her pen will probably also help. If these measures are not effective in reducing her fear and aggression, then she needs to be separated from them.

Correct by 6-16-03.

2. The problem described above with housing possibly contagious animals with or next to colony animals is a noncompliance with this standard as well as veterinary care. It needs to be addressed through the separation, isolation and quarantine protocols, as referred to above under the veterinary care section.

Inspected: 16 tigers, 2 lions, 2 jaguars, 2 black leopards.

This inspection was a quasi-announced inspection of site 2, operated by [REDACTED] had contacted AC Eastern Regional Director Dr. Goldentyer to request permission to apply for his own license. She informed him that an inspection of his facility would take place this week before a decision would be made to accept any application. I made this inspection accompanied by Dr. Greg Gaj, Supervisory Animal Care Specialist. [REDACTED] contacted the license holder, [REDACTED] at the start of the inspection. We inspected facilities at two locations: the feline housing facility at 12611 Andrews Rd, Balm, FL, and meat storage and preparation areas at 13815 SR 672, Balm, FL. Two camels were also being housed at the second location, on behalf of another licensee, but these were inspected under another license. I spoke with the two

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veterinarians attending the inspected animals before, during, and after the inspection. The exit interview was conducted with [REDACTED]. At the start of the exit interview, Dr. Gaj informed [REDACTED] that he was approved to make application for a license.

All locations where animals are held are subject to inspection, as are any locations storing food, medications, or equipment.

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